



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Application of: Farina et al

Docket: DCS-9091

Filed: August 8, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1743

Serial No.: 09/924,383

Examiner: Unknown

Title: Reagent Container and Canister For Use
In An Automated Microbiological Analyzer

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above identified application on its merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the now claimed invention. Please amend the application as described on the following pages.

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement accompanies this Amendment in which each new item of information was first cited in a communication from an international patent office in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.